Kalamazoo Nature Center (KNC) is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to inspire people to care for the environment by providing experiences that lead them to understand their connection to the natural world. Because we value the strength diversity brings to the workplace, we are committed to the recruitment, retention, and development of a workforce that reflects the society in which we live. We encourage applications from candidates representing diverse backgrounds.

**Summary of Position:** The DeLano Farm at the Kalamazoo Nature Center aims to provide an educational, interactive example of ecologically sound, regenerative agriculture on a historic Michigan farm dating to the 1850’s. We maintain a CSA that focuses on experiential learning as well as quality produce. We provide educational programming that explores different facets of agriculture and how we are all connected to our environment through the food we consume. Our farm is our classroom.

Farm interns will be educated by the Farm Director in a wide variety of tasks, including, but not limited to: customer service and education on CSA days, animal care and feeding, transplanting, seeding, watering, weeding, mulching and harvesting vegetables, flowers and herbs. Farm internships are educational positions, designed to provide a broad exposure to both the rationale and methods behind small scale regenerative agriculture. Experience is not needed, but enthusiasm and hard work are! We are part of the growing movement of no-till vegetable growing, exploring its potential to increase the carbon content of the soil as a way to combat global climate change.

**WHAT WE ASK OF OUR FARM INTERNS:**
- Guide our Shareholders in learning to tend and harvest the CSA gardens.
- Learn the various skills needed to raise healthy plants.
- Maintain a tidy, organized workspace.
- Attend to farm animals by feeding, watering, leading and moving them.
- Operate (training provided) small machines such as mowers and weed whips.
- Drive (training provided) tractors and pull wagons.
- Welcome, aid, and educate farm visitors.

**WHAT WE ASK OF ALL FARM STAFF:**
- Be a welcoming and engaged KNC role model
- Respect all guests, shareholders, co-workers and KNC community
- Work with others in a friendly, supportive manner
- Learn necessary new skills, tasks and ideas to support CSA needs
- Learn and maintain organizational systems
- Participate in idea sharing to improve systems and techniques
- Able to work in physically demanding conditions in all weather
- Provide care for animals that are entirely dependent on us.
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be able to lift 50 pounds
- Must be prepared and able to work in uncomfortable conditions for extended periods (hot, dusty, humid, itchy etc.)
- Must be able to bend, crouch and kneel.
- Must be comfortable with insects, arachnids, reptiles and rodents.
- Must uphold a strong environmental ethic.
- Must uphold KNC commitment to raising food and animals via life-supporting, restorative techniques.
- Must possess the ability to communicate a welcoming environment and work with groups of all ages and skill levels in order to provide necessary instruction to CSA shareholders and visitors.
- Preference will be given to those who have earned or are working toward a degree in biology, ecology, agriculture, environmental education, general education or other related field.
- Must have a strong work ethic and commit to the summer farm schedule.
- A valid driver’s license and good driving record are preferred.
- Willingness to work a varied schedule including some weekends and evenings.
- Ability to work as part of an equally valued team

Key Skills

- High integrity
- Independent thinker with strong initiative, but comfortable working within a defined framework
- Self-motivated (takes initiative) with high standards
- Hands-on and variety seeking
- Dynamic and fun, yet responsible and professional
- Flexible with a “whatever it takes” attitude

To Apply:

Please email the following to Kirsten Clemente, mailto:k克莱mente@naturecenter.org

1. Cover Letter
2. Resume

Deadline: March 1, 2020

The Kalamazoo Nature Center is an equal opportunity organization that will not discriminate in its programs or hiring practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, height, weight, sexual orientation or gender identity, marital status, or political affiliation.